

rescue organization in the world, and its members are world renowned.

During World War II, Mr. Dole convinced the United States War Department that success against the Germans in the mountainous Italian terrain required troops trained in mountaineering. His persistence led to the formation of the United States Army Ski Troopers in the 10th Mountain Division. After intense training in skiing and climbing, the 10th Mountain Division deployed to Northern Italy and began a series of daring and successful assaults against the German army in the northern Apennine Mountains of Italy, proving Mr. Dole to be correct.

Minnie Dole has made an indelible impact on the National Ski Patrol and the 10th Mountain Division. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to remember and celebrate the life of Minnie Dole. The contributions he has made to the safety and security of Americans through the 10th Mountain Division and the National Ski Patrol cannot be overstated.

CELEBRATING MR. ALVIN BROOKS'
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor Mr. Alvin Brooks for his decades of service to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and to congratulate him on his most recent milestone: his 90th birthday. Having spent a lifetime advancing civil and human rights, Alvin Brooks is a Kansas City legend who has been recognized in both chambers of Congress. On this momentous occasion, it is once again worth reflecting on Al's inspiring narrative.

Born into poverty during the early years of the Great Depression, Alvin and his family struggled to make ends meet. Coming of age during a time when legal segregation was still yet to be declared unconstitutional, Alvin never forgot the lessons he learned while navigating the injustices of Jim Crow. Firsthand knowledge of the country's racial caste system, and the oppressive measures used to uphold it, generated within him a deep desire for justice and a strong sense of right and wrong. Alvin understood the importance of Black Americans being represented in all professional fields, particularly law and politics. It is only fitting, then, that he became one of Kansas City's only Black police officers in the 1950s. Not only that, but he also founded the AdHoc Group Against Crime—a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing violence, solving crimes, and bringing about healing—and later organized the city's Human Relations Department, making him the first Black department head in Kansas City government.

Alvin continued to inspire. He was twice elected to City Council, served as the Mayor Pro Tem, and came within 851 votes of becoming Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri. Alvin chaired city's the Public Safety Committee, the Police Capital Improvements Oversight Committee, the Police Site Selection Committee, and was vice-chair of the Aviation Committee and the Finance and Audit Committee. Whatever his station, though, Alvin was always a

man of the people. He opposed racism in all its forms, brought justice to the community, and prioritized fairness and equality. "Hate the sin, love the sinner"—that is Alvin. Through it all, he kept his roots. His work in Kansas City, though, is demonstrative of the work we need to do in communities all across America. Justice, fairness, and human rights: these are neither specific to locale nor timeframe. They are universal and eternal.

President George H.W. Bush appointed Alvin to the President's National Drug Advisory Council. He was one of President Bush's "Thousand Points of Light,"—a select group of Americans who were recognized for volunteering in cities and towns across the country—serving in that capacity for three years. Understanding the devastating impact that the influx of drugs inflicted on underserved communities, Alvin worked tirelessly to steer others away from substance abuse. Missouri Governor Jay Nixon appointed him to the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners, where he used his seat at the table to advocate for the fair meting of justice. Alvin is also the fortysecond recipient of the Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service, the highest honor awarded by the City of Independence, Missouri. His name is on that list along with some quite notable company: Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, and Bill Clinton, to name just a few. I would be remiss not to mention Alvin's five honorary doctorates as well.

Aside from the work itself and all the accolades, Alvin has always sought to educate and inspire the next generation. He has served on boards of many community organizations, nonprofits, and businesses, sharing his knowledge and experience. His work as a motivational speaker, lecturer, and conductor of seminars and workshops has ensured that leaders in all fields are not only aware of how far our country has come, but of the work that still remains. Indeed, his passion for education bears out in his work with universities throughout my district. The next generation has a great example in Alvin, and his ninety years on Earth offer a gold mine of invaluable lessons.

As we celebrate his 90th birthday and distinguished career, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Alvin Brooks. Here's to many more.

RECOGNIZING VICTOR SIX HEALTH
AND FITNESS ORGANIZATION

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a groundbreaking Veterans' Service Group in my District, Victor Six Health and Fitness Organization. Victor Six was founded by decorated Vietnam Veteran, David A. Christian, with the mission to improve the physical and mental health of Veterans in the community.

On April 24, 2022, I had the honor of celebrating the graduation of Victor Six's inaugural class. The course promoted the mutual improvement of the physical health and mental well-being of the Veterans, fulfilling the mantra that a strong body fuels a strong mind. This was made possible by a partnership with the Newtown Athletic Club, which graciously of-

fered their space, equipment, and personnel to the program. Nine Veterans, ranging from 39 to 74 years of age, completed a rigorous 12-week physical training program. The nine Veterans are:

Ronald Warren Brand, United States Army
Robert Peter Cassalia, United States Navy
Daniel Marion Christian, United States Army
William Charles Farence, United States Marine Corps

Carla Estelle Figuerora, United States Marine Corps

James Taylor Ford, United States Army
Tanya Marie Rinkus, United States Air Force

William Patrick Schultz, United States Air Force

Rodney Darnell Wyatt, United States Marine Corps

Participants completed pre- and post-assessment measures of upper and lower body, core strength, cardio endurance, and flexibility as well as a self-evaluation of their mental status. An individualized personal training plan for each Veteran was formulated by trainers based on their assessments. The Veterans were introduced to various private group exercise classes such as aqua exercise, yoga, dance, strength, and cardio training.

The program built camaraderie and esprit de corps by providing a safe haven from stressors and improving the mental well-being of all. In the continuing battle against Veteran and Servicemember suicide, organizations like Victor Six provide the tools necessary to fight back and give hope to our Nation's heroes. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact that this organization has already had on our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LONG
BRANCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
10TH ANNUAL LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senator CORY BOOKER, Veronica Buffalo-Stubbs, Peggy Cadigan, Sergeant Kimberly Leavy and Monmouth Medical Center as they were recognized as Library Champions by the Long Branch Free Public Library on April 29, 2022.

Each year, the Long Branch Free Public Library recognizes those who are committed to the success of the library, and libraries in general, with its Library Champions Dinner and Awards. These individuals and entities promote library programs and resources and support its objectives. Senator BOOKER, Veronica Buffalo-Stubbs, Peggy Cadigan, Sergeant Kimberly Leavy and Monmouth Medical Center are truly deserving of the Library's Champion distinction.

As a United States Senator from New Jersey, Senator CORY BOOKER continues to advance legislation that directly impacts our state and residents. In addition to introducing and supporting legislation benefitting children, immigrants and veterans, Senator BOOKER co-sponsored the Build America's Libraries Act. His efforts to advance underserved populations, improve library access and internet